

## **BUENA VISTA TREE BOARD**

Minutes from the August 5, 2010 Meeting

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:08pm by Board President Dennis Hutton in the Public Works Conference Room, 755 Gregg Drive in Buena Vista, Colorado. In attendance were: Kristen Krasnow, Roy Gertson, Bill Shelby, Dennis Hutton and Megan Sweeney. Minutes were taken by Bill Shelby.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

The meeting agenda and the July 8, 2010 meeting minutes were approved as read. Motion by Roy Gertson, second by Kristen Krasnow. Motion carried.

### **VOLUNTEER TIME**

A total of 8 hours was added to the ledger.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Public Works**

Following up on a discussion at the July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting concerning the accumulation of pruning waste at the Public Works Shop yard, Roy Gertson reported that the Christian Mission had contacted him and would be happy to pick up wood at the shop yard and make it available to needy people in town for winter heating. Roy also handed out a summery work plan for the Tree Board for 2010, suggesting how the board objectives will be accomplished.

#### **Colorado State Forest Service**

Megan Sweeney noted that there is a Colorado Tree Coalition Grant available for the purpose of compiling a tree inventory for the town. The amount available is \$1500. Megan also said that once a GPS survey of tree locations in town has been completed, the Colorado State Forest Service could do a tree identification survey of town trees for about \$2 a tree and that the survey could probably be completed in about a week.

Megan also reported that Emerald Ash Pest is spreading in Tennessee and may reach Colorado eventually. Also, Thousand Canker disease has been reported in walnut trees along the Front Range.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Board of Trustees Presentation**

Kristen Krasnow reported on her presentation of the Tree Board Goals for 2010-2011 to the Trustees at their July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Roy noted that she gave a very good presentation and that it was well received by the Trustees. He noted that the Tree Inventory proposal was approved at a recent meeting and will be funded. The Pruning budget requested by the Tree Board will also probably be approved. While attending the Trustees meeting Kristen was approached by the principal of the high school who said that one of the instructors at the school might be interested in doing a GPS survey of trees in Buena Vista as part of a class project for his students.

The Colorado State Forest service could then follow up the students GPS survey with a tree by tree evaluation. Kristen will invite the instructor to our next Tree Board meeting in October to discuss the possibility of such a project.

### **Adopt-A-Tree Program**

Roy and Dennis Hutton will pick sites and stake them for this year's Adopt-A-Tree plantings on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. The trees will then be planted by Public Works staff and Tree Board members August 24<sup>th</sup>-August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010. There are about 20 Adopt-A-Tree plantings scheduled this year.

### **Western Colorado Community Forestry Conference**

Roy, Dennis, Megan and Bill will attend the Western Colorado Community Forestry Conference in New Castle on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010. This is important if the Buena Vista Tree Board is to host the conference in 2011.

### **Tree License Exams**

After some discussion it was decided to move consideration of licensing requirements for Tree Pruning and Removal in Buena Vista to the October Tree Board meeting. Megan pointed out several duplicate questions on the Tree removal Draft Exam and the Tree Pruning Draft Exam. Roy also noted that he did not think we would need separate licenses for Tree Pruning and Tree Removals, so one exam should serve for both. He also pointed out that any licensing/exam procedure would have to go through town ordinance procedures.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Tree Pruning Survey**

Roy suggested that Tree Board members meet at Public Works at 9am on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to do the annual Tree Pruning Survey for the town. The survey will concentrate on the North West quadrant of the town.

### **Colorado Center Subdivision**

A review was done of the blueprints and plans for the Colorado Center Subdivision, with an eye to the Landscaping and Tree Planting requirements for the Subdivision. Roy noted that the developer was following the old Planting Guide of the Tree Board in deciding which trees to plant in the suggested

Groups I-III in the old Planting Guide. The Tree board should provide updated options for the kinds of trees to be included in each group, stressing more water tolerant tree species. Roy suggested that we should require the developer to provide information on how he intends to provide for the irrigation of the landscape and the trees. The developer had suggested 12 trees for the street scape of the development but the Tree Board feels that 24 trees, one every 50 ft, is a better option. Also, the tree species to be planted should be identified as a variety of species would be the preferred planting. Dennis suggested that the Tree Board take a walk about the planned subdivision to get a better idea of the best spacing of the trees to be planted. He also suggested a drainage sloop in the Parking/Rest Stop area which would allow water to drain into the two tree plantings in this area. Roy also stressed that the irrigation system should be in place before the road is asphalted and that the trees should be planted after that process is completed.

### **Planting Guide Revision**

The Tree Board members began a review of the current Planting Guide as part of the planned update of Landscaping requirements for developments in Buena Vista. Groups I, II and III in the guide should be updated to include species of trees which are more drought tolerant. Roy suggested that Gary Ludwig could be asked to add or delete some species from the current three planting groups listed in the guide. Dennis suggested that some general water conservation ideas be added to the guide, such as the use of downspouts for rain water which feed directly into storage tanks that then disperse the rain water in a measured amount. As a related aside, Dennis also suggested that the Tree Board's pictorial Buena Vista's Beautiful Trees handout could be updated to stress more drought resistant species. Roy said he will send out the latest Planting Guide, the 2-26-2002 version, as an email attachment to Tree Board members before the October meeting.

### **FINAL COMMENTS**

None

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be held on October 7, 2010 at 6:pm at the Public Works Conference Room, 755 Gregg Drive.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Shelby for John Schnaderbeck, Secretary